

WKS TO OPEN DANCE SEASON ON THURSDAY

The opening dance of the season, under the auspices of the dance committee of Washington Lodge, R. P. O. E., will be held at Elks Hall, 912 H street northwest, Thursday evening next. An attractive program has been arranged, and the committee has made special plans for the decorative "ice-cream" of the hall.

The committee in charge is composed of Joseph Balderson, chairman; Arthur Outcomb, vice chairman; George Van der Berg, secretary; Herman Richards, treasurer, and Lieut. Walter Mack, reception committee chairman.

Soldier Boy Gives His Blood for Girl; Then Goes to Camp

HAGERSTOWN, Md., Sept. 30.—To save the life of Miss Edith Snyder, his neighbor and friend, Thomas E. McGowan has sacrificed a quart of his blood at the Washington County Hospital here.

Miss Snyder was critically ill, but when McGowan, who was drafted in the army, left for Camp Meade, a day after the operation, she was much improved. McGowan's arm contains five stitches, and he carries it in a sling.

LIBERTY MOTOR PASSES EVERY TEST MADE

The Liberty motor, the standard aeroplane engine developed in Washington for the great aerial fleet that Uncle Sam is to send to France, has passed every conceivable test of service.

An ordinary stock motor, after being put through every service test of continuous running under various loads, temperature and barometric conditions, has given continuous operation that exceeds any conditions that it will be called upon to meet in service. Officials of the Automotive Board and the Government generally are highly satisfied with these tests which have just been completed, it was learned today.

Should the Incurable and the Defectives Be Killed?

DR. HARVEY WILEY SAYS MORALLY, NO; ECONOMICALLY, YES

From a cold-blooded, economic standpoint, every pauper and imbecile and hopelessly incurable person in the United States ought to be put to death painlessly by the State, according to Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, former chief of the United States Bureau of Chemistry, but the idea is impossible under our present national psychology, he believes.

Dr. Wiley made this statement today in commenting upon the action of Dr. A. W. Guild, of Des Moines, Iowa, who made a plea before the annual convention of the American Association of Progressive Medicine, at Chicago, in which Dr. Guild urged the adoption of legalized euthanasia for the disposal of all aged, infirm or suffering persons who longed for death.

"Such an idea is only possible under a system similar to German Kultur. The existence of imbeciles and incurables is undoubtedly a burden upon the State, but it is not an unlimited evil. The mere fact that the State will carry such a burden shows that humanitarianism is still active in our Government."

Is Already Practiced. "Euthanasia is already practiced to the greatest permissible extent. It is legitimate medical practice to ease the pain of an incurable even though the easing of his pain will hasten death. I believe, though, that as long as human life is regarded as precious, it is impossible to put into operation such an idea."

"Every reputable practitioner in the United States believes in this form of euthanasia. It is perfectly proper, when a physician has satisfied himself that a patient cannot get well, and when the patient is in an extreme moribund condition, to administer an opiate or a small dose of some sort, even when the doctor knows that the administering of that narcotic will pass the patient into a sleep that precedes the sleep of death."

"But at the same time, society faces a terrible responsibility when it attempts to take the life of the individual without the proper process of law. The mere fact that several persons, among them the principal, come to an agreement to bring about the death of an individual is not sufficient ground for causing the death of a human being, no matter how great the provocation."

Disagrees With Guild. "Dr. Guild says, I understand, that a man would mercifully knock a horse in the head, and that the same thing, in effect, should be done to a human being who is in a hopeless condition. I don't agree with him. Such things tend to produce cold-bloodedness in a nation. It is that same cold-blooded, calculating efficiency which has made the German conduct of the war so terrible and which we are now trying to wipe out for the peace of the world."

"Dr. Oeler, in advocating the chloroforming of men after they had passed the age of sixty, made the mistake of fixing a time limit. Just as the military service mistakes in retiring officers at a certain age, regardless of their efficiency. According to Oeler's theory, I've been dead for thirteen years, whereas I've done my best work in that time."

"Hindenburg, the great German general, is seventy-one, and the Presi-

Dangerous, Says Tindall

The idea of euthanasia is bitterly opposed by Dr. William Tindall, former secretary of the District Commissioners, and one of the most prominent of the older element of Washington's population.

"I am unqualifiedly against any such idea," said Dr. Tindall. "It is not only a horrible idea and an inhuman one, but I don't believe that it would be possible to enact such a law without paving the way to a succession of appalling crimes."

"I see in such a law an unusual opportunity for persons to dispose of old individuals who, by retaining their hold on life, are depriving others of an inheritance. There would be too great a temptation to trump up causes and reasons for legalized execution."

dent of the United States has passed sixty."

Condemned by Mgr. Thomas. Euthanasia, in its suggested form, is condemned by Mgr. C. F. Thomas, pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic Church, who holds to the theory that nature has her own euthanasia, and that man should not be deprived of the last moments of life when he should be preparing himself for the world to come.

"Euthanasia, the giving of anesthetics to deaden pain, so that the patient is rendered generally or permanently insensible, seems rather extreme and indefensible," said Mgr. Thomas. It might be readily admitted as just and proper to administer drugs for temporary relief of the sufferer, or when a serious operation is to be performed, it is necessary to put the patient into a condition where he will not feel the pain.

"But it does not appear to me just right to deprive a sufferer of the use of his reason in the hours preceding death."

"If man were but an animal without a soul or spiritual life, and if his going forth from this life be no more than the passing of a goat or a sheep, then perfectly right or justifiable might be the administering of such powerful drugs to deprive him of sense or reason."

"I do not know of any special decision of the church on the subject other than

MGR. THOMAS SAYS EUTHANASIA SEEMS TO BE INDEFENSIBLE

the general teaching that in his last moments a man should be left so as to prepare himself for the eternity which is coming to him. Nature seems to have a way of its own in those last moments of deadening pain. At least, I have often been told by physicians that the pains which we imagine to be so acute are not felt so much by them. Nature, if not grace, gives them strength to bear what otherwise they would be incapable of bearing."

"It is heartrending to see people suffer, but it appears to be more heartrending to see them made unconscious, kept unconscious, and then die like dogs, writhing, physically."

"Our civilized instincts—our Christian feelings—would condemn euthanasia, or permanently depriving anyone of the use of his faculties of mind and heart at a time when these may mean so much to him, and the exercise of them would bring so much consolation to the surviving relatives."

"We do not like to witness anyone passing away from this life without the possession of reason and intelligence. Even when nature itself deprives one of the power who survive think it a pity and a hardship that we caught not the last flickering of the human intellect."

Dr. Guild, in his statement to the medical conference, told the assembled doctors that there were 200,000 persons in the United States at this time who prayed for death. "Life is often forced on these people," said Dr. Guild.

BULLDOG TEARS CHILD OF 4 YEARS TO DEATH

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 30.—John T. Michel, Jr., aged four, was set upon and killed by a bulldog in his uncle's yard. The dog broke his chain and sprang upon the child. His uncle attacked the dog with a hammer, and killed it, but not before the child was dead.

EXPECT AGREEMENT THIS WEEK ON MINE WAGES

With retail coal prices to be fixed by Fuel Administrator Garfield this week, the joint bituminous conference has speeded up its efforts to adjust wage de-

mands of the country's soft coal miners. The operators and miners hope to arrive at a compromise by next Thursday. Garfield's prices, expected to be announced tomorrow, will be only tentative. The wage increase will advance the price to the consumer. Operators are gathering figures to present to Garfield showing how much a wage increase will add to the cost of production.

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